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Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice is submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/22 of 30 July 1992 as the question of existing United Nations standards and norms in those areas is a standing item on the agenda of the Commission. The report describes ongoing activities in the area of implementation of standards and norms and outlines a possible programmatic focus aimed at strengthening the work of the Programme in promoting the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. Since its foundation, the United Nations has developed a broad range of international standards, guidelines and model treaties in crime prevention and criminal justice that represent internationally agreed upon principles of desirable practice based on the rule of law. Many of them provide a universally accepted interpretation of provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The areas covered include matters such as the treatment of prisoners, the conduct of law enforcement officials, the use of force and firearms by the police, the rights of victims of crime, the independence of the judiciary and the administration of juvenile justice. This catalogue of more traditional themes has been enlarged by the call of the General Assembly for the development of a convention against transnational organized crime and related legal instruments to address illicit trafficking in firearms and the smuggling of and trafficking in human beings. Other new areas are covered by the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (General Assembly resolution 51/59, annex) and the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions (resolution 51/191, annex). Responsible crime prevention is yet another area that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has addressed. A summary of the replies from Governments pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/33 of 21 July 1997 on the subject is contained in the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention (E/CN.15/1999/3, paras. 38-62).

3. The United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice are more pertinent than ever. There is a growing understanding of the importance of good governance and institution-building, including in the justice sector. It has been understood that fair and effective criminal justice standards, based on human rights, in addition to having a value in themselves, provide the basis for promoting and preserving the rule of law as a condition for economic development. Such standards, once adopted, must first be disseminated. Awareness must then be raised as to the importance of their practical application. Measures to make the standards more easily accessible and to raise their relevance for law makers and practitioners include manuals, prepared by the United Nations or other institutions and non-governmental organizations, such as those on prison standards, the police response to domestic violence and victims' rights. The application of standards can also be supported by the compilation of best practices, for example, provisions regarding victim assistance (see para. 24).

4. United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice can help Governments assess the fairness and effectiveness of the operation of their systems from an international perspective and offer a basis for international benchmarking in the area of criminal justice. Interesting examples of such statistical benchmarking can be found in a number of recent publications. For instance, the 1998 publication of the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, entitled "Crime and Criminal Justice Systems in Europe and North America 1990-1994", included comparative indices on law enforcement resources, gender balance among criminal justice practitioners, effectiveness of police recording, productivity of police and prosecutors, citizens' evaluation of police performance and citizens' experiences of police corruption. The World Report on Crime and Justice, to be published by Oxford University Press in March 1999, presents a vast amount of similar data from the five United Nations surveys of crime trends and operation of criminal justice systems, supplemented, *inter alia*, by the International Crime Victim Survey and the United Nations International Study on Firearm Regulation.[1]

II. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms

A. Victims of crime and abuse of power

5. In section III, "Victims of crime and abuse of power", of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21 of 28 July 1998, the Secretary-General was requested to seek the views of Member States on:

(a) The plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex), as annexed to the resolution;

(b) The desirability and feasibility of establishing an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power;

(c) The establishment of a coordination panel or other mechanism to ensure concerted action, with an appropriate division of responsibilities, among United Nations entities and other entities concerned in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration.

6. As at 8 February 1999, Argentina, Austria, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Qatar, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Zambia had provided their views.

7. Germany, as a sponsor of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, stated that it remained committed to the conclusions and objectives of the resolution, notably, that it was necessary to maintain a balance between the current main priority issue of combating transnational organized crime and other priority issues of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Egypt and Poland provided the Secretary-General with detailed information regarding their efforts to provide assistance to victims of crime.

8. Spain stressed that the Declaration on the Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power served as an important platform for the victimology movement and had strengthened national initiatives developed since the adoption of the Declaration. It would be desirable, in the long term, for the Declaration to be converted into an international legal instrument. Regional agreements also offered examples of what should be addressed on a global scale.

1. Draft plan of action

9. All countries replying supported the draft plan of action. Egypt was keen to include obligatory compensation policies for victims of crime and abuse of power. Sweden was of the view that the plan included useful measures to promote continued international work, but that additional points should be added. In the view of the Slovakia, the action plan contained basic steps necessary for the provision of assistance and care for the victims of crime. The participation of Governments in joint action was inevitable. Turkey, in support of the plan of action, informed the Secretary-General of its draft law on compensation for victims of terrorist acts.

10. The guide for policy makers on implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4) and the handbook on justice for victims on the use and application of the Declaration (E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4/Add.1) will be translated into the official languages of the United Nations and published, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources. The Governments of the Netherlands and the United States of America have offered their support.

2. International fund for victims of crime and abuse of power

11. While a number of countries in principle supported the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, others expressed reservations on the matter.

12. Argentina had no substantive observations on the proposal to create a fund. However, the question of funding requirements had to be resolved.

13. Austria considered that finding a common basis for an international fund could be extremely difficult, given the highly diverse legal systems in the different countries. In particular, the aim of reaching a subsidiary settlement of claims from victims in connection with international or transnational crimes would necessitate the development of common standards for resource allocation and adequate financial backing for the fund.

14. Egypt supported the establishment of a fund for victims of crime and abuse of power as part of the ongoing global human rights campaign and relevant international instruments. Compensation under such a fund should be determined immediately rather than being linked with a final decision by competent judicial bodies.

15. Germany saw a need for further discussion and supported the suggestion to establish a working group to be hosted by the Netherlands.

16. The Netherlands reiterated its willingness to support the United Nations in organizing a meeting at which details of the establishment of such a fund could be discussed, in particular in view of the outcome of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held in Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998). At that Conference, a trust fund was established for the benefit of victims of

crime within the jurisdiction of the Court. One of the goals of that fund was to support eligible victim claims resulting from international and transnational crime. The Government of the Netherlands therefore proposed a review of the purpose of the fund for victims of crime so as to ensure complementarity between the two initiatives and suggested that the goals of the international fund for victims of crime should be restricted to (a) technical assistance, (b) specific projects and activities, and (c) awareness campaigns about victims' rights and crime prevention. While as a consequence individual victims would not be eligible to claim assistance from the fund, the Netherlands stressed that, in addition to the issue of victims of international crimes, there was also that of international victims of national crimes. Many national compensation programmes did not recognize the victimization of non-residents within their borders. A particularly vulnerable group in that respect were tourists who were victimized while on holiday in a foreign country. Such victims were unable to apply for state compensation in their own country as the victimization took place when they were abroad. Only a few countries had opened their national compensation programmes to non-residents. It was important that that group of victims was recognized and given access to national compensation programmes.

17. Slovakia supported the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, provided that the conditions that entitled a victim of international or transnational crime to redress by the international fund were restricted to incidents where national compensation and redress were unavailable or insufficient. The fund should also strengthen the services of other support organizations for victims, as well as support the design of projects and awareness-raising campaigns on victims' rights and crime prevention.

18. Spain viewed the creation of an international fund to assist victims as an ambitious project that would extend the national networks of social protection for victims. The initiative appeared laudable, in principle, although subject to budgetary limits. The assistance to be provided to victims of international crime should be limited to international crime and to cases where subsidiary assistance could not be obtained elsewhere.

19. Sweden favoured the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime, provided that special consideration was given to the question of financing. If such a fund were, *inter alia*, to cover individual claims of victims, there was a need for further deliberations with a view to setting a demarcation line between the national victim support fund and the international one.

20. Switzerland was of the view that victim assistance was primarily the concern of States rather than of the international community. Switzerland expressed reservations on the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime if there were to be a possibility for individual victims of crime to seek redress from such a fund. An international fund for victims of crime should therefore be restricted to persons who became victims of abuse of power. In addition, overlap with existing victim funds, including those established at regional levels, should be avoided.

21. The Syrian Arab Republic supported the establishment of the fund in principle, subject to agreement on details, such as the mechanics for the establishment of such a fund and the obligations for Member States.

22. Turkey believed that the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime needed further consideration, notwithstanding the desirability of establishing an international fund in principle.

3. Coordination panel

23. All Member States that sent replies supported the establishment of a coordination panel or other mechanism to ensure concerted action among organizations of the United Nations system and other concerned entities in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration. More particularly, Spain was of the view that it was important to create a group that would promote the coordination of action between the United Nations and governmental or non-governmental bodies interested in the application of the Declaration. That should be done within the resources assigned to the regular United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Germany suggested that, for the sake of efficiency and cost effectiveness, an existing United Nations unit, preferably within the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, should be assigned the tasks of coordinating and ensuring concerted action to implement the Declaration. Argentina suggested that such a panel should be responsible for designing concrete activities to implement the declaration at the national level.

4. Database on best practices

24. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Government of the Netherlands informed the Secretary-General that it had established a database on practical national experiences regarding victim assistance, in particular as regards relevant case law and legislation on the use and application of the Declaration, taking into account different systems and traditions. The database can be accessed on the World Wide Web at the following address: www.victimology.nl. The Government of the Netherlands volunteered to maintain the database for an initial duration of three years. Spain underlined the practical significance of setting up an international database on practical experiences in the matter of assistance for victims at the national and regional levels. The database should serve as a tool to promote agreed upon models of good practice in support of the various groups of victims.

B. Administration of juvenile justice

25. Many of the concluding observations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child regularly contain recommendations to State parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex) that they seek assistance from the United Nations in the area of juvenile justice. In order to meet such requests and pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30 of 21 July 1997, the Secretary-General established a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice. The panel, which met for the first time on 25 and 26 June 1998 in Vienna, will ensure a coordinated response by the United Nations, including the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the network of non-governmental organizations concerned with juvenile justice issues. The panel decided that the work of those organizations would initially focus on Bangladesh, Guatemala, Lebanon, the Philippines and Uganda. The Centre, in cooperation with UNICEF, has initiated activities in Bangladesh, Guatemala and Lebanon, which are at various stages of implementation. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will launch a two-year project on juvenile justice in the Philippines, while UNICEF, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations concerned with juvenile justice, will provide assistance to Uganda. (For further details of technical cooperation in the area of juvenile justice provided by the Centre, see the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.15/1999/2, paras. 59-67). The next meeting of the coordination panel will be convened by UNICEF in May 1999. These efforts may be regarded as a first step to ensure appropriate assistance to be provided by the United Nations in the area of juvenile justice.

C. Prison conditions

26. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36 of 21 July 1997, entitled "International cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions", in which the Council took note of the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa, annexed to the resolution, the Secretary-General requested Member States to inform him about the prison conditions under their respective jurisdictions and, in particular, on the extent to which they had established alternatives to imprisonment. As at 13 February 1999, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritius, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia and Uzbekistan had provided the Secretary-General with information on those issues.

27. Bolivia noted that the national prison population had gone into exponential growth since the 1980s. That development went in parallel with the worsening crime situation and the expansion of the problem of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. In January 1998, prison overcrowding was 226 per cent. Closer international cooperation to provide advisory services, evaluate needs, and strengthen capacities and training were regarded as the highest priority for improving prison conditions. Notwithstanding the limitations of the prison infrastructure in Bolivia, mechanisms and legal instruments had been devised to alleviate the problem of overcrowding in the prison compounds, including conditional release after completion of two thirds of the sentence, release on bail, early release after completion of half of the sentence for non-serious offences and suspended sentence for penalties not exceeding three years.

28. Canada also informed the Secretary-General of an initiative to reduce its reliance on incarceration. There was a growing interest in Canada in alternatives to imprisonment that were rooted in the principles of restoration and healing. Canada had also introduced an information

system to promote greater integration within the criminal justice system as well as with other social policy sectors. Canada had reformed its sentencing legislation to encourage judges to consider available sanctions other than imprisonment that were reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances. The Criminal Code of Canada authorized alternative measures for adult offenders and discouraged imprisonment for failure to pay fines. A new conditional sentence of imprisonment option had been introduced for sentences of less than two years. Such a sentence could be served in the community as long as the court was satisfied that the safety of the community was not endangered. Over 13,000 conditional sentence orders had been issued in the first year of availability. Those changes were contributing to reducing the prison population in Canada.

29. Colombia provided detailed information on its current prison situation, including on prison infrastructure, prison overcrowding, health and hygiene and financial resources, and provided an outline of its prison policy. Prison overcrowding was at a rate of 146 per cent. However, if account was also taken of the units that failed to meet basic living standards, the prison overcrowding rate was even higher. During the period from December 1995 to December 1997, the country had experienced an increase in the prison population of 28 per cent. The main cause was identified as the generalized imposition of custodial sentences, which were stipulated for 97 per cent of statutory offences. Deficiencies in criminal and correctional policy had led to serious protests among prisoners and to prison riots. The Government felt, however, that the structural problem of the Colombian prison system could only be solved to the extent that its ambitious policy was actually put into effect. For that it was essential to have the support of organizations such as the Centre for International Crime Prevention.

30. Cyprus informed the Secretary-General that over the past few years the number of prisoners had continued to rise, causing periodic overcrowding. While making use of the conditional release of non-dangerous convicts who had served half of their sentence, Cyprus intended to increase its prison capacity up to 50 per cent within seven years.

31. Germany reported on a variety of measures taken to ensure that prisons were not overcrowded. For example, alternatives to pre-trial detention had been introduced for juveniles by temporarily placing suitable cases in youth welfare service institutions instead of in pre-trial detention centres. In order to avoid pre-trial detention, one state had established a detention avoidance assistance group to ensure suspects' appearances at court hearings. Alternatives to imprisonment included community service, payment of fines, offender-victim mediation and socio-educational programmes for young offenders. Some German states were considering testing electronically monitored house arrest as an alternative to pre-trial and penal detention as pilot projects.

32. Ghana provided the Secretary-General with information about its alternative measures to imprisonment and its bail system and stated that it aimed to reduce overcrowding in pre-trial detention by creating more courts so as to expedite justice.

33. Greece reported that its efforts to resolve prison overcrowding included the promulgation of laws providing for conditional release or release on bail, as well as community service sentencing dispositions and the building of new and modern prisons to relieve the situation in the existing prisons.

34. Jordan described an experiment it had been implementing in the field of reform and rehabilitation of prisoners since 1989. In the 1980s there had been a qualitative shift in prison welfare, with emphasis on reform, rehabilitation and reintegration. Prison overcrowding had since increased, with the numbers doubling in some centres. Jordan favoured alternatives to imprisonment and to pre-trial detention and called for increased cooperation and international assistance.

35. Kuwait, in implementing Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36, had taken measures to provide social care, opened a prison hospital and a school, established employment and training workshops, provided cultural, religious and moral care and expanded and offered material care for the families of inmates.

36. Lebanon had developed new regulations for prison administration and, with the support of the United Nations, would soon complete the establishment of a modern institute for the correction of juvenile delinquents, in accordance with modern specifications.

37. Mauritius reported that its conditions for the detention of offenders in prison were in accordance with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.[2]

38. Paraguay faced severe prison overcrowding, which was a problem for the implementation of human rights standards. The authorities had sought to ease the situation by building additional prisons, which had permitted the introduction of educational and vocational programmes

and the building of the infrastructure for other activities, including sports. One of the factors affecting the implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules was that in Paraguayan prisons about 95 per cent of detainees were awaiting trial, while fewer than 5 per cent were actually serving their sentence.

39. In Peru, despite legislative measures and improvements in the prison infrastructure and treatment of prisoners, prison overcrowding was still a problem. Community service, weekend arrests and fines had been introduced as alternatives to custody in the 1991 Penal Code and a new code of criminal procedure, which would, once it entered into force in 1999, introduce the possibility of house arrest.

40. Portugal stated that for some years the increase in its prison population had been a permanent problem with negative effects on prison conditions. Overcrowding created difficulties in the separation of categories of prisoners, which fuelled violence among prisoners and against prison personnel, and both inmates and staff were suffering from higher levels of stress. Portugal was trying to counteract the phenomenon by applying a system of non-custodial sanctions, which had been introduced in the penal code in 1982. A revision of the penal procedure code was before Parliament that aimed at speeding up the process for petty offences. In 1996, Portugal had adopted a programme of action that permitted the introduction of drug-free units in prisons as well as more and better educational and vocational training opportunities within prisons.

41. The Russian Federation reported that a total of about 1 million persons were incarcerated at any given time in 1997. Compared with 1996, there had been a decrease in the total prison population of 40,000 persons. However, the problem of prison overcrowding, especially in pre-trial detention centres, was apparent, as the number of accused persons admitted to custody exceeded capacity by 50 per cent. The speeding up of trials and the building of new premises were regarded as appropriate means to improve the situation. In connection with the admission of the Russian Federation to the Council of Europe, the Federation had introduced a moratorium on the execution of death penalty sentences.

42. Saudi Arabia informed the Secretary-General that there was no prison overcrowding in the country. The period of imprisonment could be reduced and pardon could be granted on the occasion of the month of Ramadan to those prisoners who met certain conditions. The human rights of prisoners were guaranteed according to Muslim law (Shariah). With regard to alternatives to imprisonment, a committee had been formed involving various concerned authorities that would consider that matter.

43. Slovakia described in detail its regulations, including that of pre-trial detention decisions, and its extradition procedures, including arrangements for extradition custody.

44. Spain provided information on its legislative and structural measures to prevent prison overcrowding. Alternatives to imprisonment included suspension of custodial sentences and parole for prisoners who had served three quarters of their sentence under ordinary circumstances or two thirds under exceptional circumstances. Weekend detention or a fine could replace terms of imprisonment of one year or less and in exceptional cases of two years. Weekend detention itself could be replaced by a fine or community service. New prison centres had been established to improve the overall penitentiary structure.

45. Sweden reported on its system of alternatives to imprisonment, including conditional sentences, probation and surrender to special care. Intensive supervision with electronic monitoring and community service was being tried on an experimental basis. Sweden had offered community service since 1990, which included work without payment for a specified time, ranging from 40 to 200 hours. Major changes in the sanction system and in the penal system for juvenile delinquents had been proposed in a report by a government commission.

46. Tunisia outlined the services it provided to prisoners, with special emphasis on the improvement of lodging and living conditions and social and psychological care. Vocational, social and psychological and cultural rehabilitation facilities were provided. A comprehensive reform programme included literacy education, vocational training and an employment programme. As regards alternatives to imprisonment, pardons and conditional releases were in place.

47. In Uzbekistan, a number of alternatives to custody were employed, including fines, deprivation of a particular right, corrective labour, restrictions imposed in the course of military service, stripping of military or special rank, conditional sentence, compulsory medical treatment, compulsory payment of compensation for damages suffered and the placement of juveniles in special correctional institutions. The 1997 Code of Corrections included a list of rights guaranteed to convicted offenders that included,

inter alia, religious freedom, personal safety and social security, legal assistance, the right to file appeals, statements and proposals, contact with the outside world, education and medical care. Additional privileges were available for female, juvenile or disabled prisoners.

III. Status report on the information-gathering system

48. It will be recalled that in its resolution 1993/31 of 27 July 1993, the Economic and Social Council established a system of information gathering on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. Since 1994, the following standards and norms have been included in that information-gathering process:

(a) Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;[2]

(b) Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex);

(c) Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;[3]

(d) Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;

(e) Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary;[4]

(f) United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (resolution 45/113, annex);

(g) United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules) (resolution 40/33, annex);

(h) United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines) (resolution 45/112, annex).

49. In accordance with section I of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Secretary-General was requested to prepare updated reports where at least 30 additional States had replied in respect of a standard and norm on which a report had already been submitted.

50. At the request of the Council, the Centre will continue to gather information on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The Centre will report to the Commission at its ninth session on the use and application of:

(a) United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) (General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex);

(b) Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors;[5]

(c) Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.[6]

51. Related questionnaires have been sent to Governments to assist them in providing the Secretariat with all relevant information. It will be recalled that the draft survey instruments were submitted to the Commission at its seventh session as conference room papers. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, the Centre has prepared survey instruments on:

(a) United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions;

(b) United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security (General Assembly resolution 51/60, annex);

(c) International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (resolution 51/59, annex).

52. As in the past, the questionnaires will be available to the Commission as conference room papers.

IV. Action to be taken by the Commission

53. The Commission may wish to adopt the draft plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/21, and to request the Secretary-General to establish a coordination panel to ensure concerted action among United Nations entities and other agencies to promote the implementation of the Declaration. The Commission may also wish to discuss the question of the establishment of an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power, taking into account the suggestions made by Governments, in particular as regards the restricted scope and goals of such a fund.

54. As regards information-gathering on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms, the Commission may wish to review the draft questionnaires, as appropriate.

55. As regards the issue of prison overcrowding and the use of alternatives to imprisonment, the Commission may wish to reiterate its call upon Member States strictly to apply the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36.

Notes

[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.IV.2.

[2] See *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Geneva, 22 August-3 September 1955: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex I.A.

[3] *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.2, annex.

[4] *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.2, annex.

[5] *Eighth United Nations Congress* ..., chap. I, sect. C.26, annex.

[6] Ibid., sect. B.3, annex.

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Strategic management and programme questions: appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Nomination of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is drawn to a matter concerning the composition of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, requiring action on the part of the Commission and the Economic and Social Council. The terms of two original members of the Board, namely Simone Rosez (France) and Sushil Varma (India), who were appointed on 26 November 1994 for a five-year term, expire on 26 November 1999, while a third member, Jan van Dijk (Netherlands), who was appointed on 17 November 1995, has resigned.

2. According to article IV of the statute of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56:

> "2. The Board shall be composed of the following:
>
> (a) Seven members selected by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control upon nomination by the Secretary-General and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council, with due regard to the fact that the Institute and its work are funded from voluntary contributions and to the principle of equitable geographic distribution. The members shall be chosen from among eminent persons who possess the necessary qualifications and expertise. They shall serve in their individual

* E/CN.15/1999/1.

capacity for a term of five years from the date of the first Board meeting in which they are invited to participate. They shall be eligible for reappointment by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control with the endorsement of the Economic and Social Council for not more than one additional term ... "

3. According to the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, the Commission has succeeded to the functions and powers of the former Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in this and in other matters.

4. The following four candidates are proposed:

Ann-Marie Begler (Sweden)
Kumaravelu Chockalingam (India)
Philippe Melchior (France)
Jeremy Travis (United States of America)

5. This proposal takes into account the principle of equitable geographic distribution in the composition of the Board. The current Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute is composed of:

Adedoku A. Adeyemi (Nigeria)
Karoly Bard (Hungary)
Setsuo Miyazawa (Japan)
Alejandro Reyes Posada (Colombia)
Simone Rosez (France)
Jan van Dijk (Netherlands)
Sushil Varma (India)

6. Background information on all candidates is provided in the annex to the present document.

Annex

Background information on candidates nominated to fill positions on the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Philippe Melchior (France)

Born on 11 June 1944, Philippe Melchior, a graduate from the École nationale d'administration (ENA) (French National School for Administration) in 1970, was appointed Deputy Inspector of the Inspection générale de l'administration (Inspectorate of Public Administration) in 1972.

He was posted in 1976 as Sous-préfet of Marseilles and was in charge of security questions for the Alpes-Maritimes region (1970-1981).

He was posted as Secretary-General for the Préfecture of the Côtes-du-Nord region (1981), and then as General Manager of the Regional Public Establishment of the Picardie region (1982) and Secretary-General of the Préfecture of the Yvelines region.

He became Inspecteur général de l'administration in 1986. As Inspector, he was in charge of accounting services and evaluating public policies in the whole field of French administration. He became Chairman and General Director of SOFREMI, a mixed public-private company selling engineering equipment and associated training abroad (1988).

On 12 November 1997, Philippe Melchior was appointed Head of the Institute of Higher Studies on Internal Security (IHESI) and has held the office since then.

IHESI is a public institute specialized in the following areas: training of high-level civil servants, judges, members of parliament, local authorities and high-level private managers; research on security questions; and engineering for technical assistance in the field of security.

Ann-Marie Begler (Sweden)

Ann-Marie Begler was born in 1954. She is a trained social worker and graduated, in 1979, from the School of Social Studies. She then worked as a social welfare secretary for the City of Stockholm until 1985. From 1985 to 1989, she worked in the Executive Office of the City of Stockholm. During 1989, she was first secretary of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

From 1991to1997, she worked at the National Board of Health and Welfare, from March 1995 as Deputy Director-General. In November 1997, she was appointed Director-General of the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention.

Ann-Marie Begler is the Deputy Chairman of the Swedish Alcohol Retailing Monopoly. She is also a member of the boards of the National Board for Youth Affairs and the National Financial Management Authority.

Kumnravelu Chockalingam (India)

Kumnravelu Chockalingam, M.A., M.Litt., M.L., Ph.D., Dip. in German, Fellow of the Indian Society of Criminology (F.I.S.C.), has some 30 years of teaching and research experience in the field of criminology, with a specialization in victimology and human rights.

From 1978 to 1983, he worked as a Lecturer for the National Institute of Social Defence, Government of India. He is currently Professor and Head of the Department of Criminology, University of Madras. In 1995, he was elected to serve as member of the Syndicate of the University for three years, and was actively involved in the policy-making and administration of the University.

Professor Chockalingam has been awarded various fellowships and awards in recognition of his contribution to criminology, victimology and social defence in India. He has also founded, or been an active life member of, many scientific organizations.

He has been a life member of the World Society of Victimology since 1985 and a member of its Executive Committee, serving from 1991 to 2000. In 1992, he established the Indian Society of Victimology and acted as its President until 1998.

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Strategic management and programme questions: appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Nomination of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Addendum

Note by the Secretary-General

V.99-83424 (E)

Annex

Background information on candidates nominated to fill positions on the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Jeremy Travis (United States of America)

Jeremy Travis is the Director of the National Institute of Justice, the research agency of the United States Department of Justice. Mr. Travis has served in this position since 1994, when he was nominated by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the United States Senate.

During his tenure, Mr. Travis has initiated a broader agenda in all of the Institute's mission areas of the National Institute of Justice. In collaboration with other federal agencies, the Institute has developed initiatives on police integrity, policing in emerging democracies, drug treatment, restorative justice and research on violence against women. In response to the 1994 Crime Act, the Institute has launched a multi-year research and evaluation programme that will commit more than $100 million to assessing the impact of the key innovations supported under the legislation: community policing, violence against women, sentencing and correctional reform, and drug courts. The Institute is also a partner in a programme with the United States Defense Department that will allocate more than $50 million to develop dual-use technologies that meet civilian law enforcement and defence needs.

The Institute's intramural research capabilities have been enhanced, its staff researchers focusing on such issues as an examination of crime rate changes during the past 10 years in 75 American cities. Communication of research findings to the field has been significantly expanded through both print and electronic media. And the Institute has joined 11 other criminological institutes around the world as a member of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

Before joining the National Institute of Justice, Mr. Travis was the Deputy Commissioner for Legal Matters of the New York City Police Department. In that position, he served as adviser to the Police Commissioner and as General Counsel to the Department and oversaw the Legal Bureau, the License Division and the Criminal Justice Bureau. While with the Department, Mr. Travis also developed the Civil Enforcement Initiative, which provided lawyers as counsel to police precincts. That programme received a 1995 Innovations in American Government Award from the Ford Foundation and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Mr. Travis also authored New York City's ban on assault weapons; introduced new technologies into the arrest process; drafted the Police Department's quality-of-life strategy, entitled "Reclaiming New York's Public Spaces"; and, as chairman of the Chancellor's Advisory Panel on School Safety, developed a proposal for a new approach to school violence.

In a previous position, Mr. Travis served as Chief Counsel to the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice for the United States House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. Working with the subcommittee chairman, Representative Charles E. Schumer, Mr. Travis developed new agenda for oversight hearings and legislative initiatives on criminal justice issues.

Prior to that, Mr. Travis was Special Advisor to Mayor Edward I. Koch of New York City. Among other tasks, Mr. Travis conducted a management and legal review of the City Human Rights Commission, coordinated the city's implementation of the federal immigration legalization programme, formed the Commission to Establish the High School Institute for Law and Justice, established the Mayor's Advisory Council on Community Relations following the Howard Beach incident, and served as the coordinator of the Mayor's Office of Educational Services.

Before becoming Special Advisor to the Mayor, Mr. Travis was Special Counsel to the First Deputy Mayor and Assistant Director for Law Enforcement Services for the City of New York and, earlier, was Special Counsel to the Police Commissioner for the New York City Police Department. In addition to his many consulting and research positions, Mr. Travis's extensive legal and criminal justice experience includes serving as Law Clerk to Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Executive Director for the New York City Criminal Justice Agency and Executive Director of the Victim/Witness Assistance Project for the Vera Institute of Justice.

Mr. Travis has lectured and taught courses on criminal justice, public policy and history at the New York Law School, the New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, and Yale College. He was the Marden and Marshall Fellow in Criminal Law at the New York University School of Law, Center for Research in Crime and Justice.

The recipient of a J.D., *cum laude*, from the New York University School of Law, Mr. Travis was a member of the Law Review and was awarded the Arthur Garfield Hays Fellowship in Civil Liberties. He also holds an M.P.A. from the New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and a B.A., *cum laude*, with honours in American Studies from Yale College. His publications include "Rethinking sovereign immunity after Bivens" in the *New York University Law Review*; "Compliance strategies for draft registration" (with James B. Jacobs) in the *Arizona Law Review*; "A modest proposal to end gun running in America" (with William Smarrito) in the *Fordham Urban Law Journal*; "Using subpoenas to obtain police records" (with Thomas P. Doepfner) in the *New York Law Journal*; and *Rethinking School Safety*, the report of the New York City Chancellor's Advisory Panel on School Safety, which he chaired.

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Strategic management and programme questions: programme questions

Proposed programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice for the biennium 2000-2001

Note by the Secretary-General

Introduction

1. The present note contains a summary of the proposed programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice for the biennium 2000-2001 for consideration by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session. The proposed programme of work will be reflected in section 14, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. It will become final upon approval by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

Overview

2. The proposed programme of work is derived from programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.[1] The programme was designated a priority area of work by the General Assembly in its resolutions 51/219 of 18 December 1996 and 53/207 of 18 December 1998 on programme planning.

3. The overall objectives of the programme are:

   (a) To promote international cooperation and the fundamental principles of the rule of law;

* E/CN.15/1999/1

(b) To improve the capacity of States to prevent crime, in particular organized crime, corruption, trafficking in human beings and terrorism;

(c) To provide effective substantive support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

(d) To mobilize increased resources to provide technical cooperation;

(e) To ensure improved coordination within the United Nations system and with other relevant international organizations.

4. It is expected that the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime will be finalized in the year 2000. Through the convention, Member States will commit themselves to develop effective national legislation to combat criminal organizations and their activities. Additional instruments thereto that may also be finalized will address the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea, and trafficking in women and children. Should the General Assembly decide to develop additional protocols to the convention or other international convention(s), the Centre will support that process.

5. The Centre aims to enhance the capacity of Governments to reform legislation and to strengthen their criminal justice systems, to establish institutions and mechanisms for the detection, investigation, prosecution and judgement of various types of crime and to upgrade the skills of crime prevention and criminal justice personnel.

6. The Centre provides substantive servicing to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and will also service the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be convened in Vienna in 2000.

A. Policy-making organs

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

7. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is a functional body of the Economic and Social Council. It is the principal policy-making body of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice and has a membership of 40 Member States. In accordance with the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Commission fulfils the functions of preparatory body for the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. In accordance with Assembly resolution 51/120 of 12 December 1996, the Commission has been mandated to carry out work related to the development of an international convention against organized transnational crime.

8. The Commission holds annual sessions of eight working days in Vienna. During each session, the Commission establishes in-session working groups to consider specific agenda items in detail. In addition, by its resolution 5/3, entitled "Strategic management by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme", the Commission requested its bureau to meet during the periods between sessions and to submit a report on its inter-sessional work; decided that the bureau should endeavour to hold inter-sessional meetings with the bureau of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to improve coordination of the work of the two Commissions; also decided to establish an informal consultative group on resource mobilization, which was to meet inter-sessionally and report annually on activities undertaken and results achieved; and established an informal working group to undertake a regular review of programme mandates and resources, with a view to establishing a more realistic relationship between them, and to report to the Commission thereon.

Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

9. The quinquennial congresses are a parallel activity undertaken by the Centre for International Crime Prevention. The Tenth Congress will be held in Vienna in the year 2000. The Centre began preparatory work during the biennium 1998-1999 and will be responsible for the organization and servicing of the Congress, which will bring together high-level government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations, experts and journalists to discuss the theme "Crime and justice: meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century". The Congress will adopt a declaration setting out viable, action-oriented measures to address the following topics: (a) promoting the rule of law and strengthening the criminal justice system; (b) international cooperation in combating transnational crime: new challenges in the twenty-first century; (c) effective crime prevention: keeping pace with new developments; and (d) offenders and victims: accountability and fairness in the justice process.

B. Programme of work

10. The main activities to be carried out during the biennium will include:

(a) Consultations and negotiations in connection with the finalization of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and additional international legal instruments thereto addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea; and, subject to a decision by the General Assembly, development of additional protocols to the convention and of other international convention(s);

(b) Provision to Member States, upon request, of advisory services and technical assistance designed to meet their most pressing needs;

(c) Monitoring the use and application of existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and promoting reliance on the United Nations model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters;

(d) Collection and analysis of data and information on crime trends and criminal justice operations;

(e) Development of research and technical cooperation initiatives to help prevent international terrorism;

(f) The substantive servicing of the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

11. Attention will be focused, in particular, on issues such as transnational organized crime, terrorism and economic crime, with particular emphasis on corruption, all of which are of primary concern to the international community.

12. Pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 6/1 on strategic management, the number of reports to be submitted to the Commission will be reduced from 35 to 15.

Expected accomplishments

13. The Centre for International Crime Prevention expects to accomplish the following by the end of the biennium:

(a) Finalization of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and development of additional international legal instruments thereto addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea;

(b) Subject to a decision by the General Assembly, initiating the development of additional protocols to the convention and of other international convention(s);

(c) Increased use and application by Member States of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and of the United Nations model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters;

(d) Enhanced capacity of Member States to develop or upgrade their legislation, policies and strategies, as well as the skills of their criminal justice personnel, to detect, prosecute and prevent various forms of transnational crime;

(e) More effective international cooperation to prevent and control various forms of transnational crime and improved cooperation with other United Nations bodies and entities and with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(f) Provision of valid and reliable data and information, statistics, findings and results of action-oriented research, including high-quality analysis of and updated information on structures and activities of major and emerging transnational organized criminal groups, on illicit markets and on trends and patterns in the trafficking of human beings and in corruption;

(g) Increased adherence to and implementation by Member States of the existing international conventions on terrorism and improved national capacities and international cooperation to address and prevent terrorism;

(h) Timely discharge of reporting obligations to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

Outputs

14 During the biennium the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

a. General Assembly (Third Committee). Sixteen meetings;

b. Economic and Social Council. Twenty-four meetings;

c. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Thirty-two meetings of the Commission, 10 inter-sessional meetings of the bureau and consultations with permanent missions, 4 meetings of the consultative group on resource mobilization and 4 meetings of the informal working group on resources and mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

d. Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Fifty-two meetings (2000);

e. Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Eighty meetings (4 sessions, 20 meetings per session);

f. Plenipotentiary conference (of 4 weeks' duration) for the finalization of the convention. Seventy-six meetings;

g. Subject to a decision by the General Assembly, ad hoc committee for the development of additional protocols to the convention. Thirty meetings (2 sessions, 15 meetings per session);

h. Subject to a decision by the General Assembly, ad hoc committee for the development of other international convention(s). Thirty meetings (2 sessions, 15 meetings per session);

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. General Assembly. Reports on activities of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (annual); United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and additional international legal instruments thereto addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea (annual); Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; implementation of the declaration of the Tenth Congress; operational activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention (annual);

b. Economic and Social Council. Annual report on the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

c. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Reports on activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention (annual); activities of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network (biennial); strategic management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (annual); resource mobilization and funding of technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (annual); progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime; economic crime, including international fraud, embezzlement and corruption (annual); Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and its declaration (biennial); United Nations standards and norms (annual); and prison overcrowding (biennial);

d. Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Two reports on the theme "Crime and justice: meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century (2000);

e. Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Six reports and revised drafts of the convention and the additional international legal instruments thereto;

f. Plenipotentiary conference on the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime. One report and final version of the convention and the additional international legal instruments;

g. Official records of the drafting of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the additional international legal instruments (*travaux préparatoires*);

h. Implementation guide for the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the additional international legal instruments;

i. Subject to a decision by the General Assembly, four substantive documents for the meetings of the ad hoc committee for the development of additional protocols to the convention and four substantive documents for the meetings of the ad hoc committee for the development of other international convention(s);

(iii) Other services provided (RB/XB)

Advisory panel of experts on the collection and analysis of data and information on organized crime; an ad hoc expert group for the design of strategies for the prevention and control of economic and financial crime, including early warning mechanisms; and an ad hoc expert group on the contribution of operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice to development (XB);

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Issuance of appeals for international assistance; fund-raising. Consolidated appeal of the Secretary-General for operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice (annual); and fund-raising and special events, with particular emphasis on cooperation with the private sector (annual);

(ii) Promotion of legal instruments

a. Promotion of, advice on and monitoring the status of implementation of selected United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice through recurrent surveys, regular reporting to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and provision of advisory services (annual);

b. Promotion of, advice on and monitoring the use of the United Nations model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters through recurrent surveys, regular reporting to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and provision of advisory services (annual);

c. Preparation of policy proposals for the promotion of the existing international conventions against terrorism (annual);

d. Promotion of the use of the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, as complemented by the provisions set forth in annex I to General Assembly resolution 53/112 of 9 December 1998;

(iii) Recurrent publication. ODCCP Studies on Drugs and Crime (annual);

(iv) Non-recurrent publications. Revised United Nations compendium of standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (annual);

(v) Special event for the promotion of the signature and ratification of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the additional international legal instruments thereto (RB/XB);

(vi) Technical materials for outside users (RB/XB)

a. Further development, maintenance and expansion of the United Nations Criminal Justice Information Network and its databases, including the central repository on organized crime, and dissemination of data and information;

b. Production of technical material on explosives; best practices and strategies in crime prevention; strategies for the prevention and control of economic and financial crime; and victims of crime and abuse of power (XB);

c. Collection and analysis of information and preparation of analytical studies on terrorism, especially on counter-terrorist measures and policy responses, assessment of the threat posed by terrorist groups, national legislation on terrorist crimes and conflict-resolution techniques to end terrorist campaigns;

d. Development and maintenance of a computerized directory of national central authorities responsible for the handling or submission of requests for mutual assistance in criminal matters;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison.* Organization of regular consultation meetings, coordination with and participation in the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the interregional, regional and cooperating institutes, the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the International Criminal Police Organization, Europol, relevant

intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular through the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council and specialized agencies of the United Nations system; and implementation of joint activities in various regions in cooperation with the regional commissions and relevant regional intergovernmental organizations;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*. Provision of advisory services on legislation or other preparatory measures for the ratification of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the additional international legal instruments thereto; provision of support, coordination and backstopping to the advisory services conducted by the interregional advisers on crime prevention and criminal justice under section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation; development, coordination and backstopping of technical assistance activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention; development of training materials on the collection, processing and analysis of data and information on crime prevention and criminal justice and on violence against women; development of training materials on action against terrorist violence and on early warning mechanisms to prevent the escalation of such violence; organization of four regional training workshops on the additional international legal instruments and five training seminars on extradition; development of evaluation guidelines for the operational activities and technical cooperation projects of the Centre for International Crime Prevention; development of measures to strengthen the criminal justice systems of countries emerging from conflict situations; design and implementation of 20 field projects on crime prevention and criminal justice, including on organized crime, corruption, trafficking in human beings and terrorism; organization of three interregional training seminars on mutual assistance in criminal matters; development of training materials for the above training seminars; and provision to Member States, upon request, of advisory services relating to the drafting of legislation concerning mutual assistance in criminal matters and to developing and implementing bilateral or multilateral treaties in that area.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1).

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Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels, held in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999

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* E/CN.15/1999/1.

I. Conclusions and recommendations

1. The Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels, held in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999, would like to bring the conclusions and recommendations set forth below to the attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session, for examination and action.

A. General considerations

2. The experts first of all stressed that the fight against corruption had to be undertaken not only through preventive measures, but also through comprehensive efforts to promote good governance, with the involvement of civil society. They noted that there had been extensive action on the part of the international community in recent years to improve international cooperation in controlling corruption. Considerable progress had been achieved in tackling both supply (combating bribe-giving) and demand (combating bribe-taking). However, much remained to be done in three areas, as follows:

(a) The international community should also focus its efforts on the financial channels of corruption and develop a strategy to ensure the detection of related financial flows throughout the world, in order to make possible and strengthen the prevention and punishment of corruption;

(b) There was a need to develop a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the prevention and punishment of corruption, including its links with organized crime and money-laundering. To that end, the United Nations should formulate a global programme of cooperation that would make it possible to improve coordination between measures taken in developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition and to strengthen the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(c) International cooperation in the fight against corruption needed to be significantly improved, for example through the development of standards, as recommended at the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption, held in Buenos Aires from 17 to 21 March 1997. The group of countries fully committed to such cooperation was still too small. It was important to take steps to involve more countries and reduce the number of weak links in the international machinery for detecting and suppressing the international financial flows related to corruption.

B. Measures to improve international cooperation in combating corruption

3. The experts were of the opinion that the international community needed to equip itself with effective international tools to control corruption as a whole and to curb its detrimental effects on economic and financial systems. In their view, States Members of the United Nations should examine the desirability of elaborating a universal instrument on the subject. In that connection, they considered it necessary to take into account international best practices, such as those compiled by the Financial Action Task Force on Money-laundering, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, the International Organization of Securities Commissions and Transparency International, as well as the international legal instruments elaborated by other international institutions such as the Council of Europe, the European Union, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Organization of American States (OAS), and also the negotiations currently taking place within the United Nations on the drafting of an international convention against transnational organized crime.

4. They expressed the view that, within the context of such a comprehensive strategy, special attention should be paid to technical cooperation and assistance for the developing countries or the regional organizations concerned, through the implementation of the Global Programme against Corruption developed by the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the United Nations Secretariat. That Programme, which was aimed at aligning national laws and practices, was intended to assist countries so requesting in improving their operational capabilities for controlling corruption and in strengthening the independence of their justice systems, a key factor in that regard. Also, the establishment, under the Programme, of monitoring mechanisms involving international experts was strongly recommended. The experts called upon developed countries to participate actively in the Programme and provide it with the financial resources necessary for its implementation.

5. The experts stressed that the restrictive practices of some States or territories in regard to administrative cooperation or mutual legal assistance tended to increase

the vulnerability of their institutions and financial systems to the laundering of unlawful proceeds of corruption.

C. Measures at the national level to strengthen international cooperation

6. The experts were of the opinion that the capacity of a State or territory to cooperate more effectively at the international level in combating corruption called for the following actions at the domestic level:

(a) Ratification, at the earliest possible opportunity, of the existing anti-corruption instruments, including the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, and adoption of all necessary steps for their implementation;

(b) Enactment of appropriate legislation to combat the different forms of corruption and the laundering of the proceeds of corruption, laying down the basis for their confiscation and providing for the liability of corporate entities and suitable penalties;

(c) Building specialized structures for dealing with economic and financial crime linked to corruption, the organization of which should be based on a multidisciplinary approach, such an approach being required by the complexity of the fight against corruption;

(d) Appropriate regulation and supervision of financial activities, based on internationally accepted principles;

(e) Introducing comprehensive systems for the prevention and detection of money-laundering, including, in particular, an obligation on the part of financial institutions to identify their customers, exercise vigilance and report suspicious transactions to a competent authority responsible for their investigation;

(f) Establishment of rules of commercial law ensuring that information on finance-oriented corporate structures and their activities is accessible to the administrative and judicial authorities.

7. The experts also considered that the increased participation of all States in international cooperation would facilitate the prosecution of bribe-givers and bribe-takers worldwide. In the case of countries whose participation in such cooperation efforts was currently insufficient, it would also have a direct impact on the level of protection of their economic and financial systems from unlawful proceeds in general and from the proceeds of corruption in particular. The experts were of the opinion that combating corruption and money-laundering was in fact an essential prerequisite for sustainable economic development.

8. The experts accordingly felt that the control of corruption called for increased efficacy of the modalities of international administrative and judicial cooperation, primarily with a view to identifying the financial channels of corruption, and for the participation of all States or territories, in particular major financial centres linked to the international financial system, including offshore financial centres.

D. Measures to improve the detection of financial flows related to corruption

9. The experts noted that bribe-givers and bribe-takers, who were bound by the confidentiality of a covert arrangement, sought to dissociate the origin of the proceeds from their destination and then to launder such assets in order to protect themselves against inquiry and prosecution. The financial channels of corruption thus followed routes that afforded maximum protection from investigation.

10. The experts also noted that financial flows stemming from corrupt deals passed through States and territories that did not possess comprehensive and effective systems for detecting such unlawful flows and whose financial sectors were in general inadequately regulated and supervised.

11. Some offshore financial centres posed particular problems in that respect. Financial activities in such States or territories were often insufficiently regulated, even though the volume of financial flows through them was considerable. Moreover, some rules of commercial law did not guarantee the judicial authorities access to information. Shell companies and many other complex corporate structures made it possible to conceal the identity of the true economic beneficiaries of transactions. The experts noted that, among those devices, trusts represented by regulated professions were frequently used for such purposes.

12. Following proposals made by several experts, it was agreed that the international community should provide insufficiently regulated financial centres with model laws that would allow the judicial authorities to have access to

information concerning the origin of assets connected with corrupt practices if there was a suspicion of corruption surrounding such money.

E. Recommendations

13. The government experts recommended the following action at the international level:

(a) Civil society and international organizations should draw the attention of political leaders to the problems of corruption and secure their commitment to dealing with them;

(b) A global programme of technical cooperation against corruption that takes account of best practices should be implemented with the financial support of the most developed countries;

(c) The results of the Expert Group Meeting should be incorporated into the United Nations manual on practical measures against corruption currently undergoing revision, in order to provide an instrument of technical cooperation that can serve as a guide for all Member States, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in their efforts against corruption and its financial channels;

(d) Ways and means should be explored with a view to persuading all insufficiently regulated financial centres to adopt rules enabling them to trace and take action against the proceeds of corruption, participate actively in international cooperation efforts against related financial crime and, if necessary, consider the introduction of measures to protect the global financial system from financial centres that pose the most significant problems or that do not participate in international cooperation;

(e) Member States should be invited to consider the desirability of elaborating a universal international anti-corruption instrument taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting, the international legal instruments of other international organizations and the negotiations currently in progress within the United Nations on the drafting of an international convention against transnational organized crime.

14. The experts also recommended the following action at the national level:

(a) Corruption in all its forms should be criminalized and bribe-givers and the proceeds of corruption should be covered under anti-money-laundering laws;

(b) An effective system of national coordination should be established between the administrative, law enforcement and judicial authorities, in accordance with domestic law;

(c) Standard rules should be drawn up concerning transparency and civil and/or criminal liability in respect of private enterprises;

(d) The unrestricted circulation of information and the full involvement of civil society, including the media, in the fight against corruption should be promoted in laws and programmes;

(e) Steps should be taken to ensure that the administrative and judicial authorities of all States and territories forming part of the global financial system have the capacity to cooperate effectively at the international level in preventing, detecting and suppressing acts of corruption and related financial flows, with emphasis on the crucial importance of effective measures for the exchange of information;

(f) Steps should be taken to ensure that bank secrecy and tax provisions do not hamper international administrative and judicial cooperation in combating corruption;

(g) Steps should be taken to ensure that the authorities possess sufficient capacities to provide prompt judicial cooperation in cases involving corruption or the laundering of the proceeds of corruption;

(h) The capacity of States to prevent their financial systems from being used by bribe-givers and bribe-takers to transfer or launder money related to corrupt deals should be strengthened through the establishment of systems for the appropriate regulation and supervision of financial activities, based on internationally accepted principles;

(i) Integrity testing in respect of the founders, shareholders and managers of financial institutions should be guaranteed;

(j) Comprehensive systems for the prevention of money-laundering and the detection of illicit financial flows should be used in combating corruption, including, in particular, the requirement that financial institutions should identify their customers, exercise vigilance and report suspicious transactions to a competent authority responsible for their investigation, based on the recom-

mendations of the Financial Action Task Force and on the Model Regulations concerning Laundering Offences connected to Illicit Drug Trafficking and Related Offences, drawn up by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of OAS;

(k) Shell companies and all corporate structures should be prevented from concealing from the judicial authorities the identity of the true beneficial owners and the identity of the actual beneficiaries of financial transactions;

(l) Efforts should be made to align the laws and practices relating to internal and external audits of commercial enterprises and financial institutions, and auditors should be required to carry out appropriate investigations when potentially unlawful acts are brought to their notice;

(m) The extent of professional secrecy of regulated professions should be clearly determined according to the different activities pursued;

(n) Increased vigilance should be exercised with a view to the detection of financial flows involving dealings of operators having no economic activities in the national territory.

II. Introduction

15. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1998/16, which was adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventh session, decided to convene an open-ended meeting of governmental experts in order to explore ways of ensuring that the recent multilateral initiatives against corruption were effective and that an appropriate international strategy against corruption, including the proceeds thereof, was formulated in consultation with other intergovernmental organizations active in that area.

16. That recommendation followed a series of resolutions and recommendations of the General Assembly, the Council and the Commission. Council resolution 1995/14, which was adopted on the recommendation of the Commission at its fourth session, urged Member States to develop and implement anti-corruption measures, increase their prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution capacities, and improve international cooperation for the prevention and control of corruption. At its fifth session, the Commission recommended that the Council approve a draft resolution entitled "Action against corruption" with a view to its adoption by the General Assembly. The draft resolution was adopted by the Assembly as resolution 51/59. In that resolution, the Assembly adopted the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials and recommended it to Member States as a tool to guide their efforts against corruption. Moreover, in its resolution 51/191, the Assembly adopted the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions, and requested the Commission to examine ways, including through legally binding international instruments, to further the effective implementation of the Declaration.

17. The Expert Group met at the invitation of the Government of France, which offered to cover all expenses connected with the Expert Group Meeting in order to assist the Commission in implementing Council resolution 1998/16.

III. Organization of the Meeting

A. Opening of the Meeting

18. The Expert Group met at the invitation of the Government of France, and specifically of the Minister of Finance. The secretariat for the Meeting was provided by the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat.

19. At the opening meeting, statements were made by Dominique Strauss-Khan, French Minister of Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry, and by Jan van Dijk, representative of the Centre for International Crime Prevention.

B. Attendance

20. A list of participants is contained in annex I.

C. Documentation

21. A list of the documents distributed to the experts is given in annex II.

D. Election of officers

22. Thierry Francq, head of the French delegation to the Financial Action Task Force, was elected Chairman of the Meeting. Eugenio Curia (Argentina), Sergei Karev

(Russian Federation) and Zheng Yekui (China) were elected Vice-Chairmen. Iskandar Ghattas (Egypt) was elected Rapporteur.

E. Adoption of the agenda

23. The following agenda was adopted:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work in six meetings.
3. Title of the event: "Corruption and its international financial channels: elements of a comprehensive anti-corruption strategy".
4. First meeting: "Review and examination of the latest international developments".
5. Second meeting: "Offshore financial centres and the financial channels of corruption".
6. Third meeting: "Corruption, commercial law and practice".
7. Fourth meeting: "International administrative and judicial cooperation in combating corruption".
8. Fifth meeting: "International action, new approaches and action proposals".
9. Sixth meeting: "Conclusions of the Expert Group and adoption of the report of the Meeting".
10. Closure of the Meeting.

F. Closure of the Meeting

24. Closing statements were made by the Directeur de cabinet of the French Minister of Justice and by the representative of the Centre for International Crime Prevention.

Annex I

List of participants

Experts from States members of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*

Argentina:	Eugenio Maria Curia
Austria:	Johann Haller, Johannes Gschwendp, Enno Drofenik, Norbert Schuh
Benin:	Esteve Rustico, Christiane Bouraima Meylias, Fortune Luc Olivier Guezo
Bolivia:	Ramiro Rivas
Brazil:	Sandra Valle, Damasio de Jesus, Anuar Nahes, Adrienne Senna
China:	Zheng Yekui, Wang Changyong
Colombia:	Olga Bula
Côte d'Ivoire:	Joseph Tanny, Ernest Attoh Nangui, Fako Kone
Ecuador:	Mariana Yepez de Velasco
Egypt:	Iskandar Ghattas, Ayman Abbas
Fiji:	Isikely Mataitoga
France:	Thierry Francq, Alain Damais, Joël Sollier, Eric Danon, Catherine Pignon, Jean-Pierre Michau, Violaine Viennet-Clerc, Xavier Musca, Thierry Ramonatxo, Pierre Merand, Michel Gauthier, Michel Debacq, Jean-Baptiste Avel, Daniel Fontanaud, Thierry Le Roy, Mireille Balletrazzi, Didier Duval, Norbert Carrasco-Saulnier, Philippe Cavalerie, Laurent Paillard, Tristan Gervais de Lafond, Jean-Bernard Peyrou, Dominique Alfonsi, Dominique Guiraud, Jean-Louis Verisson
Germany:	Werner Kerkloh, Frauke Menke, Regina Weinacht, Hans Georg Schlief, Helga Gayer
Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Amir Zamani-Nia
Italy:	Lorenzo Salazar, Stefano Mogini, Castore Palmerini, Pasquale Velardi, Gabriella Lamantia, Ludovica Soderini
Japan:	Masayoshi Kimura, Yasushi Iijima, Nobuhiro Watanabe
Malawi:	Alexius Ernest Nampota, Frayer Nkhoma
Mexico:	Jose-Luis Bernal
Netherlands:	P. J. H. M. Brouns, T. B. Timmermans

* Costa Rica did not send an expert.

Pakistan:	Asma Anisa
Philippines:	Aniano A. Desierto
Poland:	Mariusz Skowronski, Jacek Socha
Republic of Korea:	Nam Sang-jung, Oh Hyun-joo, Kim Jong-bum
Romania:	Lucica Ghita, Gheorghe Geambasu, Nicolae Grigoreanu, Dan Popescu
Russian Federation:	Sergei Karev
Saudi Arabia:	Fadel bin Mohamed bin Hussein Katabi, Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Al Jarrallah, Talal bin Abdel Kader Bin Abdallah, Mohamed Ibrahim Al Hayzan, Mohamed Al Cheaibi
Sudan:	Saif El Din Omer Suliman, Abubakr Nur
Sweden:	Håkan Öberg, Thomas Grahn, Claes Ljungh
Togo:	Komna Baba, Yao Hétsu Fiaty
Tunisia:	Ben Cheikh Hedi Fitouri, Shili Jalel, Ben Mansour Amor
Ukraine:	Anatolii Bernatskyi
United States of America:	Joseph M. Myers, Theodore S. Greenberg, Joseph Gangloff, Robert Gianfranceschi
Zambia:	Bradford Umbanga Malumbe

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Canada, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

United Nations

Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Monetary Fund, World Bank

Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

Commonwealth Secretariat, Council of Europe, Council of Ministers of the European Union, European Commission, Financial Action, Task Force on Money Laundering, International Criminal Police Organization, International Organization of Securities Commissions, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status: International Chamber of Commerce

Other non-governmental organizations

Transparency International

Annex II

List of documents

I. United Nations

1. "Practical measures against corruption", *International Review of Criminal Policy*, Nos. 41 and 42.
2. International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (General Assembly resolution 51/59, annex, of 12 December 1996).
3. United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions (General Assembly resolution 51/191, annex, of 16 December 1996).
4. United Nations Declaration on Crime Prevention and Public Security (General Assembly resolution 51/60, annex, of 28 January 1997).
5. Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption, held at Buenos Aires from 17 to 21 March 1997 (E/CN.15/1997/3/Add.1, annex).
6. Report of the Secretary-General on action against corruption and bribery (E/CN.15/1998/3).
7. Extract from Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/15 of 28 July 1998, entitled "Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters".
8. Extract from Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/16 of 28 July 1998, entitled "Action against corruption".
9. *Financial Havens, Banking Secrecy and Money-Laundering*, double issue 34 and 35 of the *Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Newsletter* (1998).

II. Council of Europe

1. Criminal Law Convention on Corruption (GMC (98) 41).
2. Agreement establishing the Multidisciplinary Group on Corruption.

III. European Community

Convention (drawn up on the basis of article K3 of the Treaty on European Union) on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of the member States of the European Union (*Official Journal of the European Communities* of 25 June 1997).

IV. Organization of American States

Inter-American Convention against Corruption (1996).

V. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (21 November 1997).

VI. Group of Seven

Extract from the communiqué of the Group of Seven Finance Ministers dated 9 May 1998.

United Nations E/CN.15/1999/11

Economic and Social Council

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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Eighth session
Vienna, 27 April-6 May 1999
Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Strategic management and programme questions: programme questions

Medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. The medium-term plan is a translation of legislative mandates into programmes and subprogrammes. It constitutes the principal policy directive of the United Nations.

2. The medium-term plan is prepared in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1 (1987)) established by the General Assembly. Each plan covers a four-year period and is presented in programmes and subprogrammes. Each programme contains a narrative that identifies the mandates that provide overall direction for the programme. Each subprogramme contains a narrative that reflects all mandated activities and identifies objectives and accomplishments during the plan period.

3. Each narrative is to be approximately one page in length. Its format has been established by the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Secretariat and consists of the following elements: overall orientation, mandates providing strategic direction, expected accomplishments by the end of 2005, organizational unit responsible for implementation and programme objectives.

4. The Secretariat has begun preparation of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. The Secretary-General's proposed medium-term plan will be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination in June 2000 and subsequently to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

* E/CN.15/1999/1.

5. The programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed medium-term plan are to be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies prior to their examination by the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

6. Accordingly, the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 will be included in the proposed agenda of the ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2000 and the text of the proposed programme narrative on crime prevention and criminal justice will be available to the Commission at that session.

7. The purpose of the present note is to draw the attention of the Commission to the preparation of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 at the earliest stage of its preparation, to initiate consultation and to seek its views on the content of the programme narrative on crime prevention and criminal justice, based on the preliminary outline provided in chapter II below, so that those views can be taken into account in preparing the proposed text to be finalized by the Secretariat in early 2000.

II. Preliminary outline for the programme narrative on crime prevention and criminal justice

Overall orientation of the programme

8. Crime has a direct negative impact on sustainable socio-economic development and on the quality of life of people in general. Maintaining the rule of law and administering justice fairly and efficiently are cornerstones of democracy and development. With increasing globalization and technological progress, new forms of crime and new dimensions in crime prevention emerge that necessitate cooperative action by Member States in order for the latter to be successful in combating them. Consequently, the overall orientation of the programme is to promote effective international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice matters in general and to provide assistance to Governments in addressing them and, especially, changing crime trends and challenges, such as those posed by transnational crime.

Mandate

9. The mandate for the programme lies in the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretariat by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Most recently, those responsibilities have been defined by the General Assembly in its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and 49/158 of 23 December 1994 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity. [*Reference to be included to resolutions that may be adopted in 1999 and 2000, especially on the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime, and the recommendations emanating from the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as approved by the General Assembly.*]

Expected accomplishments by the end of 2005

10. There will be increased understanding of crime trends and emerging challenges in crime prevention and criminal justice, improved expertise for Member States to draw upon and enhanced international cooperation in addressing crime prevention and criminal justice concerns that require a concerted international response. Specifically, Member States will have received timely and effective assistance upon request to deal with new crime challenges, especially transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings, economic and financial crimes and corruption. The United Nations convention on transnational organized crime and its related protocols will have been ratified and significant progress made in implementing their provisions. Coordinated global strategies and legal instruments will be in place to deal with economic crimes and corruption. Further progress will have been achieved in the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and technical assistance will have been provided to Governments upon request with a view to establishing efficient criminal justice systems and the rule of law. The international community will have received the required technical and secretariat support for policy dialogue and the development of common strategies.

Organizational unit responsible for implementing the programme

11. The Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention will be responsible for implementing the programme.

Objectives

12. The programme will pursue the following four major objectives:

(a) *Promotion of coordinated joint and individual action by Member States in responding to new forms of crime and new dimensions in crime prevention and criminal justice*. Fighting transnational organized crime will be a priority. Measures will be pursued to facilitate implementing the provisions of the United Nations convention on transnational organized crime and its related protocols, by providing assistance in required areas. As relevant, support will be provided for developing additional protocols. Work already undertaken in preventing trafficking in human beings will be further built upon. Another closely related area of focus will be the fight against economic and financial crimes and corruption, for which the development and implementation of coordinated global strategies and legal instruments will be pursued. A third area of focus will be the analysis of emerging trends, the formulation of policy and programme options and the development and provision of expertise for dealing with them;

(b) *Promotion of the rule of law, fair and efficient criminal justice systems and effective crime prevention*. Activities of the programme will continue to promote the application and use of United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice and crime prevention, the cornerstones of humane and effective criminal justice systems, which in turn are basic requisites for fighting new crime trends and challenges. The development and implementation of effective strategies and policies for preventing crime will continue to be fostered and assistance will be provided in establishing efficient criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

(c) *Provision of advisory services and technical assistance to Governments upon request in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice*. The programme will provide expert assistance both in dealing with new forms of crime and new dimensions in crime prevention, including support for implementing new conventions and protocols, and in establishing efficient criminal justice systems and the rule of law. Appropriate national, regional or global projects will be designed and executed and resources mobilized for their implementation. Continued attention will be given to strengthening the programme's operational capacity and to achieving maximum synergy in its actions with other relevant actors, in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies of the United Nations system. Special efforts will be made to raise funds for project implementation;

(d) *Support for global policy development in crime prevention and criminal justice*. The programme will continue to serve as a forum for policy dialogue and the development of common strategies in dealing with crime prevention and criminal justice. In that context, it will provide technical and secretariat services for the related intergovernmental bodies, in particular the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.